

# GENERALIZED JOSEPH'S DECOMPOSITIONS

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**ABSTRACT.** We generalize the decomposition of  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$  introduced by A. Joseph in [5] and relate it, for  $\mathfrak{g}$  semisimple, to the celebrated computation of central elements due to V. Drinfeld ([2]). In that case we construct a natural basis in the center of  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$  whose elements behave as Schur polynomials and thus explicitly identify the center with the ring of symmetric functions.

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULTS

1.1. Let  $H$  be an associative algebra with unity over a field  $\mathbb{k}$  and let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a full abelian subcategory closed under submodules of the category  $H - \text{Mod}$  of left  $H$ -modules. Suppose that we have a “finite duality” functor  $\star : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Mod} - H$  with  $V^\star \subseteq V^\star = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{k}}(V, \mathbb{k})$  (with equality if and only if  $V$  is finite dimensional) with its natural right  $H$ -module structure, such that the restriction of the evaluation pairing  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V : V \otimes V^\star \rightarrow \mathbb{k}$  to  $V \otimes V^\star$  is non-degenerate for all objects  $V$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  (see §2.1 for the details). Following [4], we define  $\beta_V : V \otimes_{D(V)} V^\star \rightarrow H^\star$  where  $D(V) = \text{End}_H V^\star = (\text{End}_H V)^{op}$  by

$$\beta_V(v \otimes f)(h) = \langle h \triangleright v, f \rangle_V = \langle v, f \triangleleft h \rangle_V, \quad v \in V, f \in V^\star, h \in H,$$

where  $\triangleright$  (respectively,  $\triangleleft$ ) denotes the left (respectively, right)  $H$ -action. It is easy to see that  $\beta_V$  is well-defined. Set  $H_V^\star = \text{Im } \beta_V$ . Recall that  $V \otimes V^\star$  and  $H^\star$  are naturally  $H$ -bimodules. The following is essentially proved in [4, §3.1] and [3, Corollary 1.16]

**Proposition 1.1.** (a) *For all  $V \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $\beta_V$  is a homomorphism of  $H$ -bimodules and  $H_V^\star$  depends only on the isomorphism class of  $V$ . Moreover, if  $V, V' \in \mathcal{C}$  are simple and  $H_V^\star = H_{V'}^\star$ , then  $V \cong V'$ ;*

(b)  *$H_{V \oplus V'}^\star = H_V^\star + H_{V'}^\star$  for all  $V, V' \in \mathcal{C}$ . In particular,  $H_{V^{\oplus n}}^\star = H_V^\star$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

(c) *If  $V \otimes_{D(V)} V^\star$  is simple as an  $H$ -bimodule then  $\beta_V$  is injective.*

(d) *If  $V$  is simple finite dimensional then  $V \otimes_{D(V)} V^\star$  is simple as an  $H$ -bimodule and hence  $\beta_V$  is injective.*

It is natural to call  $H_V^\star$  a *generalized Peter-Weyl component*. Denote  $H_{\mathcal{C}}^\star = \sum_{[V] \in \text{Iso } \mathcal{C}} H_V^\star$  and  $\underline{H}_{\mathcal{C}}^\star = \bigoplus_{[V] \in \text{Iso}^\circ \mathcal{C}} H_V^\star$ , where  $\text{Iso } \mathcal{C}$  (respectively,  $\text{Iso}^\circ \mathcal{C}$ ) is the set of isomorphism classes of objects (respectively, simple objects) in  $\mathcal{C}$ . By definition there is a natural homomorphism of  $H$ -bimodules  $\underline{H}_{\mathcal{C}}^\star \rightarrow H_{\mathcal{C}}^\star$ . Clearly, under the assumptions of Proposition 1.1(c) it is injective. Note that  $H_{\mathcal{C}}^\star = \sum_{[V] \in A} H_V^\star$  for any subset  $A$  of  $\text{Iso } \mathcal{C}$  which generates it as an additive monoid. The following refinement of [4, Theorem 3.10] establishes the generalized Peter-Weyl decomposition.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Suppose that all objects in  $\mathcal{C}$  have finite length. Then*

(a) *if  $H_{\mathcal{C}}^\star = \underline{H}_{\mathcal{C}}^\star$  then  $\mathcal{C}$  is semisimple;*

(b) *if  $\mathcal{C}$  is semisimple and  $V \otimes_{D(V)} V^\star$  is simple for every  $V \in \mathcal{C}$  simple then  $H_{\mathcal{C}}^\star = \underline{H}_{\mathcal{C}}^\star$ .*

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1.2. Henceforth we denote by  $\mathcal{C}^{fin}$  the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$  consisting of all finite dimensional objects. Clearly  $V \otimes V^*$ ,  $V \in \mathcal{C}^{fin}$ , is a unital algebra with the unity  $1_V$ ; set  $z_V := \beta_V(1_V) \in H_V^*$ . For example, if  $H = \mathbb{k}G$  for a finite group  $G$  then for any finite dimensional  $H$ -module  $V$  we have  $z_V(g) = \text{tr}_V(g)$ ,  $g \in G$  where  $\text{tr}_V$  denotes the trace of a linear endomorphism of  $V$ .

Given an  $H$ -bimodule  $B$ , define the subspace  $B^H$  of  $H$ -invariants in  $B$  by  $B^H = \{b \in B : h \triangleright b = b \triangleleft h, \forall h \in H\}$  ( $B^H$  is sometimes referred to as the center of  $B$ ). Clearly,  $z_V \in (H_V^*)^H$ ,  $z_V(1_H) = \dim_{\mathbb{k}} V \neq 0$  and  $(H_V^*)^H = \mathbb{k}z_V$  if  $\text{End}_H V = \mathbb{k}\text{id}_V$ . Set  $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{C}} = \sum_{[V] \in \text{Iso } \mathcal{C}} \mathbb{Z}z_V$ . Given  $V \in \mathcal{C}$ , denote  $|V|$  its image in the Grothendieck group  $K_0(\mathcal{C})$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ . The following result contrasts sharply with Proposition 1.1 and Theorem 1.2 for non-semisimple  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Theorem 1.3.** *Suppose that  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{fin}$ . Then the map  $K_0(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{C}}$  given by  $|V| \mapsto z_V$ ,  $[V] \in \text{Iso } \mathcal{C}$  is an isomorphism of abelian groups.*

1.3. To introduce a multiplication on  $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{C}} \subset (H_{\mathcal{C}}^*)^H \subset H_{\mathcal{C}}^*$ , we assume henceforth that  $H = (H, m, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  is a bialgebra and that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a tensor subcategory of  $H - \text{Mod}$ . Note that  $H^*$  is an algebra in a natural way. It is easy to see (Lemma 2.4) that  $(H^*)^H$  is a subalgebra of  $H^*$ . We also assume that there is a natural isomorphism  $(V \otimes V')^* \cong V'^* \otimes V^*$  in  $\text{mod } -H$  for all  $V, V' \in \mathcal{C}$ .

**Theorem 1.4.** (a)  $H_V^* \cdot H_{V'}^* = H_{V \otimes V'}^*$  for all  $V, V' \in \mathcal{C}$ . In particular,  $H_{\mathcal{C}}^*$  is a subalgebra of  $H^*$ ;  
(b)  $z_V \cdot z_{V'} = z_{V \otimes V'}$  for all  $V, V' \in \mathcal{C}^{fin}$ . In particular, if  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{fin}$  then  $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a subring of  $(H_{\mathcal{C}}^*)^H$  and the map  $K_0(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{C}}$  from Theorem 1.3 is an isomorphism of rings.

Thus, it is natural to regard  $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{C}}$  as the character ring of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

1.4. It turns out that we can transfer the above structures from  $H_{\mathcal{C}}^*$  to  $H$  if  $H = (H, m, \Delta, \varepsilon, S)$  is a Hopf algebra. For an  $H$ -bimodule  $B$  define left actions  $\text{ad}$  and  $\diamond$  on  $B$  via  $(\text{ad } h)(b) = h_{(1)} \triangleright b \triangleleft S(h_{(2)})$  and  $h \diamond b = S^2(h_{(2)}) \triangleright b \triangleleft S(h_{(1)})$ ,  $h \in H$ ,  $b \in B$ , where  $\Delta(b) = b_{(1)} \otimes b_{(2)}$  in Sweedler's notation.

Fix a categorical completion  $H \widehat{\otimes} H$  such that  $(f \otimes 1)(H \widehat{\otimes} H) \subset H$  for all  $f \in H_{\mathcal{C}}^*$ . Equivalently,  $\Phi_P : H_{\mathcal{C}}^* \rightarrow H$ ,  $f \mapsto (f \otimes 1)(P)$  is a well-defined linear map. Denote  $\mathcal{A}(H)$  the set of all  $P \in H \widehat{\otimes} H$  such that  $P \cdot (S^2 \otimes 1)(\Delta(h)) = \Delta(h) \cdot P$  for all  $h \in H$ . Clearly,  $\mathcal{A}(H)$  is a subalgebra of  $H \widehat{\otimes} H$ . Elements of  $\mathcal{A}(H)$  are analogous to  $M$ -matrices (see e.g. [13]). For  $V \in \mathcal{C}^{fin}$ , set  $c_V = c_{V,P} := \Phi_P(z_V) \in \Phi_P((H_{\mathcal{C}}^*)^H)$ . Let  $Z(H)$  be the center of  $H$ .

**Theorem 1.5.** *Let  $P \in \mathcal{A}(H)$ . Then  $\Phi_P : H_{\mathcal{C}}^* \rightarrow H$  is a homomorphism of left  $H$ -modules, where  $H$  acts on  $H_{\mathcal{C}}^*$  and  $H$  via  $\diamond$  and  $\text{ad}$ , respectively. Moreover,  $\Phi_P((H_{\mathcal{C}}^*)^H) \subset Z(H)$  and the assignment  $|V| \mapsto c_V$ ,  $[V] \in \text{Iso } \mathcal{C}^{fin}$  defines a homomorphism of abelian groups  $\text{ch}_{\mathcal{C}} : K_0(\mathcal{C}^{fin}) \rightarrow Z(H)$ .*

Surprisingly,  $\Phi_P$  is often close to be an algebra homomorphism. To make this more precise, we generalize the notion of an algebra homomorphism as follows. Let  $A, B$  be  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebras and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a collection of subspaces in  $A$ . We say that a  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear map  $\Phi : A \rightarrow B$  is a  $\mathcal{F}$ -homomorphism if  $\Phi(U) \cdot \Phi(U') \subset \Phi(U \cdot U')$  for all  $U, U' \in \mathcal{F}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  is multiplicative if  $U \cdot U' \in \mathcal{F}$  for all  $U, U' \in \mathcal{F}$ . It is easy to see that  $|\mathcal{F}| := \sum_{U \in \mathcal{F}} U$  is a subalgebra of  $A$  and  $\Phi(|\mathcal{F}|)$  is a subalgebra of  $B$  for any multiplicative family  $\mathcal{F}$ .

In what follows we denote  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}$  the collection of all subspaces of  $H^*$  of the form  $H_V^*$  where  $V \in \mathcal{C}$ . By Theorem 1.4,  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}$  is multiplicative.

**Example 1.6.** Let  $H = \mathbb{k}G$  where  $G$  is a finite group and  $\mathcal{C}$  be the category of its finite dimensional representations. Then the assignment  $\delta_g \mapsto g^{-1}$  where  $\delta_g(h) = \delta_{g,h}$ ,  $g, h \in G$  defines an isomorphism of  $H$ -bimodules  $\Phi : H^* \rightarrow H$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}_G = \{H_V^* : [V] \in \text{Iso}^{\circ} \mathcal{C}, \text{Hom}_G(V, V \otimes V) \neq 0\} \subset \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}$ . If  $|G| \in \mathbb{k}^{\times}$  then  $\Phi$  is an  $\mathcal{F}_G$ -homomorphism since  $\Phi(H_V^*) \cdot \Phi(H_{V'}^*) = 0$  if  $[V] \neq [V'] \in \text{Iso}^{\circ} \mathcal{C}$  and  $\Phi(H_V^*) \cdot \Phi(H_V^*) = \Phi(H_V^*)$ .

Denote by  $\mathcal{M}(H)$  the set of all  $P \in H \widehat{\otimes} H$  such that  $\Phi_P$  is an  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}$ -homomorphism and by  $\mathcal{M}_0(H)$  the set of all  $P \in \mathcal{M}(H)$  such that  $\Phi_P$  restricts to a homomorphism of algebras  $(H_{\mathcal{C}}^*)^H \rightarrow Z(H)$ . We

abbreviate  $H_{V,P} := \Phi_P(H_V^*)$  and  $H_{\mathcal{C},P} := \Phi_P(H_{\mathcal{C}}^*) = \sum_{[V] \in \text{Iso } \mathcal{C}} H_{V,P}$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}$  is multiplicative,  $H_{\mathcal{C},P}$  is a subalgebra of  $H$  for  $P \in \mathcal{M}(H)$ . The following is immediate.

**Proposition 1.7.** *Suppose that  $P \in \mathcal{A}(H) \cap \mathcal{M}(H)$  and  $\Phi_P$  is injective. Then:*

- (a) *If  $V \otimes_{D(V)} V^*$  is a simple  $H$ -bimodule then it is isomorphic to  $H_{V,P}$  as a left  $H$ -module;*
- (b)  *$H_{\mathcal{C},P} = \bigoplus_{[V] \in \text{Iso } \mathcal{C}} H_{V,P}$  if  $\mathcal{C}$  is semisimple and  $V \otimes_{D(V)} V^*$  is simple as an  $H$ -bimodule for each  $V \in \mathcal{C}$  simple;*
- (c) *If  $P \in \mathcal{M}_0(H)$  then  $\text{ch}_{\mathcal{C}} : K_0(\mathcal{C}^{fin}) \rightarrow Z(H)$  is injective.*

The following theorem provides a sufficiently large subclass of  $\mathcal{A}(H) \cap \mathcal{M}(H)$  and  $\mathcal{A}(H) \cap \mathcal{M}_0(H)$ .

**Theorem 1.8.** *Suppose that  $P \in \mathcal{A}(H)$  such that  $(\Delta \otimes 1)(P) = (m \otimes m \otimes 1)((T \otimes 1)P_{15}P_{35})$  for some  $T \in H \hat{\otimes} H \hat{\otimes} H \hat{\otimes} H$ . Then  $P \in \mathcal{M}(H)$ . Moreover, if  $(m^{op} \otimes m^{op})(T) = 1 \otimes 1$  then  $P \in \mathcal{M}_0(H)$ .*

It should be noted that  $\mathcal{M}(H)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_0(H)$  are not exhausted by the above condition.

**Example 1.9.** Suppose that  $\text{char } \mathbb{k} \neq 2, 3$  and let  $P_{\lambda,\mu} = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{\sigma \in S_3} 1 \otimes \sigma + \frac{1}{36} [s_1 \otimes (1 + (2\mu - 1)s_1 - (\mu + 1)(s_2 + s_1 s_2 s_1) + s_1 s_2 + s_2 s_1)]_{S_3} + \frac{1}{18} [s_1 s_2 \otimes (2 + (\lambda - 1)s_1 s_2 - (\lambda + 1)s_2 s_1)]_{S_3}$ , where  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{k}$ ,  $s_i = (i, i + 1)$  and we abbreviate  $[x]_G := \sum_{g \in G} (g \otimes g)x(g^{-1} \otimes g^{-1})$  for  $x \in \mathbb{k}G \otimes \mathbb{k}G$ . Then one can show that  $P_{\lambda,\mu} \in \mathcal{A}(H) \cap \mathcal{M}_0(H)$  and that  $\Phi_P$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $(\lambda, \mu) \in (\mathbb{k}^\times)^2$ . However, there is no  $T \in H^{\otimes 4}$  such that the condition of Theorem 1.8 holds.

It turns out that  $P \in \mathcal{A}(\mathbb{k}G) \cap \mathcal{M}_0(\mathbb{k}G)$  with  $\Phi_P$  injective does not always exist for a given finite group  $G$  (for instance, it does not exist for dihedral groups different from  $S_2 \times S_2$  and  $S_3$ ) and thus it would be interesting to classify all finite groups  $G$  which admit such a  $P$ . Its existence provides a decomposition of  $\mathbb{k}G$  into a direct sum of adjoint  $G$ -modules  $H_{V,P}$  over all simple  $\mathbb{k}G$ -modules  $V$  (a mock Peter-Weyl decomposition) which is an alternative to the well-known Maschke decomposition into the direct sum of matrix algebras. As a further example, we constructed an 8-parameter family of such  $P$  for  $G = S_4$ . The answer is rather cumbersome (it involves 34 terms of the form  $[g \otimes x]_{S_4}$ ,  $g \in S_4$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{k}S_4$ ) and is available at <https://ishare.ucr.edu/jacobg/jdec-example.pdf>.

Specializing Proposition 1.7 and Theorem 1.8 to quantized universal enveloping algebras we can recover Joseph's decomposition ([5]). Namely, let  $H = U_q(\mathfrak{g})$  for a Kac-Moody algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathfrak{g}}$  be the (semisimple) category of highest weight integrable  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ -modules (of type 1, see e.g. [1]); then  $V^*$  is the graded dual. Let  $\Lambda^+$  be the monoid of dominant weights for  $\mathfrak{g}$  and denote  $V(\lambda)$  a highest weight simple integrable module of highest weight  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$ . We construct  $P = P_{\mathfrak{g}}$  with  $\Phi_{P_{\mathfrak{g}}}$  injective in Lemma 2.9 and obtain the following Theorem which refines results of [5].

**Theorem 1.10.** (a) *For  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$ ,  $H_{V(\lambda),P} = \text{ad } U_q(\mathfrak{g})(K_{2\lambda}) \cong V(\lambda) \otimes V(\lambda)^*$ .*

(b)  *$\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda^+} \text{ad } U_q(\mathfrak{g})(K_{2\lambda})$  is direct and is a subalgebra of  $U_q(\mathfrak{g})$ .*

Furthermore, part (c) of Proposition 1.7, which generalizes a classic result of Drinfeld ([2]), yields

**Theorem 1.11.** *Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be semisimple. Then the assignment  $|V| \mapsto c_V$  defines an isomorphism of algebras  $\mathbb{Q}(q) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} K_0(\mathfrak{g} - \text{mod}) \rightarrow Z(U_q(\mathfrak{g}))$ .*

This provides the following refinements of classic results of Duflo, Harish-Chandra and Rosso ([10]).

**Corollary 1.12.** *For  $\mathfrak{g}$  semisimple,  $Z(U_q(\mathfrak{g}))$  is freely generated by the  $c_{V(\omega)}$  where the  $\omega$  are fundamental weights of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , and  $c_{V(\lambda)}c_{V(\mu)} = \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda^+} [V(\lambda) \otimes V(\mu) : V(\nu)]c_{V(\nu)}$  for any  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda^+$ .*

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## 2. NOTATION AND PROOFS

Recall that, given an  $H$ -bimodule  $B$ ,  $B^*$  is naturally an  $H$ -bimodule via  $(h \triangleright f \triangleleft h')(b) = f(h' \triangleright b \triangleleft h)$ ,  $f \in B^*$ ,  $h, h' \in H$ ,  $b \in B$ . In particular,  $H^*$  is an  $H$ -bimodule.

**2.1. Proof of Theorem 1.3.** The following are immediate.

**Lemma 2.1.**  $\langle V, W^* \rangle_{V \oplus W} = 0 = \langle W, V^* \rangle_{V \oplus W}$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** Let  $V, W$  be left  $H$ -modules and let  $\rho : H \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} W \rightarrow V$  be a  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear map. Then:

- (a) the assignment  $h \triangleright_{\rho} (v, w) = (h \triangleright v + \rho(h \otimes w), h \triangleright w)$ ,  $h \in H$ ,  $v \in V$ ,  $w \in W$ , defines a left  $H$ -module structure  $V \oplus_{\rho} W$  on  $V \oplus W$  if and only if

$$\rho(hh' \otimes w) = \rho(h \otimes h' \triangleright w) + h \triangleright \rho(h' \otimes w), \quad h, h' \in H, w \in W. \quad (2.1)$$

In that case  $V$  is an  $H$ -submodule of  $V \oplus_{\rho} W$  and  $W = (V \oplus_{\rho} W)/V$ .

- (b) A short exact sequence of  $H$ -modules  $0 \rightarrow V \rightarrow U \rightarrow W \rightarrow 0$  is equivalent to  $0 \rightarrow V \rightarrow V \oplus_{\rho} W \rightarrow W \rightarrow 0$  for some  $\rho$  satisfying (2.1).

Thus, given  $V \subset U$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , we can replace the natural short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow V \rightarrow U \rightarrow U/V \rightarrow 0$  by the one from Lemma 2.2.

**Lemma 2.3.** Let  $V, W$  be left  $H$ -modules and let  $\rho$  be as in Lemma 2.2. Then  $\beta_{V \oplus_{\rho} W}(x + y) = \beta_V(x) + \beta_W(y)$  for any  $x \in V \otimes V^*$ ,  $y \in W \otimes W^*$ .

*Proof.* It suffices to verify the assertion for  $x = v \otimes f$  and  $y = w \otimes g$ ,  $v \in V$ ,  $w \in W$ ,  $f \in V^*$ ,  $g \in W^*$ . We have by Lemmata 2.1, 2.2(a)

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_{V \oplus_{\rho} W}(v \otimes f + w \otimes g)(h) &= \langle h \triangleright_{\rho} v \otimes f + h \triangleright_{\rho} w \otimes g \rangle_{V \oplus W} \\ &= \langle h \triangleright v, f \rangle_V + \langle \rho(h \otimes w), f \rangle_{V \oplus W} + \langle h \triangleright w, g \rangle_W = \beta_V(v \otimes f)(h) + \beta_W(w \otimes g)(h). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Since  $1_{V \oplus_{\rho} W} = 1_V + 1_W$  where  $1_V \in V \otimes V^*$ ,  $1_W \in W \otimes W^*$ , it follows from Lemma 2.3 that  $z_{V \oplus_{\rho} W} = z_V + z_W$  and the map  $K_0(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{C}}$ ,  $|V| \mapsto z_V$  is a well-defined surjective homomorphism of abelian groups. Also,  $z_V \in \sum_{[S] \in \text{Iso}^{\circ} \mathcal{C}} \mathbb{Z} z_S$  for each  $V \in \mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{fin}$  because it has finite length. Since the set  $\{z_V\}_{[V] \in \text{Iso}^{\circ} \mathcal{C}} \subset \underline{H}_{\mathcal{C}}^*$  is  $\mathbb{k}$ -linearly independent by Proposition 1.1(d), the injectivity follows.  $\square$

**2.2. Algebra structure on  $H_{\mathcal{C}}^*$ .** Henceforth we assume that  $H = (H, m, \Delta, \varepsilon)$  is a bialgebra. Then  $H^*$  is a unital algebra with the multiplication defined by  $(\phi \cdot \xi)(h) = \phi(h_{(1)})\xi(h_{(2)})$ ,  $h \in H$ ,  $\phi, \xi \in H^*$ ,  $\Delta(h) = h_{(1)} \otimes h_{(2)}$  in Sweedler notation and the unity is  $\varepsilon$ .

**Lemma 2.4.**  $(H^*)^H$  is a subalgebra of  $H^*$ .

*Proof.* Observe that  $\phi \in (H^*)^H$  if and only if  $\phi(hh') = \phi(h'h)$  for all  $h, h' \in H$ . Then, given  $h, h' \in H$  and  $\xi, \xi' \in (H^*)^H$  we have

$$(\xi \cdot \xi')(hh') = \xi(h_{(1)}h'_{(1)})\xi'(h_{(2)}h'_{(2)}) = \xi(h'_{(1)}h_{(1)})\xi'(h'_{(2)}h_{(2)}) = (\xi \cdot \xi')(h'h). \quad \square$$

*Proof of Theorem 1.4.* Note that in the category of  $\mathbb{k}$ -vector spaces there is a natural isomorphism  $\kappa : (V \otimes V^*) \otimes (V' \otimes V'^*) \rightarrow (V \otimes V') \otimes (V \otimes V')^*$ ,  $\kappa(v \otimes f \otimes v' \otimes f') = v \otimes v' \otimes f' \otimes f$ ,  $v \in V$ ,  $v' \in V'$ ,  $f \in V^*$ ,  $f' \in V'^*$ . Then, clearly,  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{V \otimes V'} \circ \kappa = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V \otimes \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{V'}$  which immediately implies that  $\tilde{\beta}_V \otimes \tilde{\beta}_{V'} = \tilde{\beta}_{V \otimes V'} \circ \kappa$  where  $\tilde{\beta}_U := \beta_U \circ \pi_U$  where  $\pi_U : U \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} U^* \rightarrow U \otimes_{D(U)} U^*$  is the natural projection. This proves the first assertion and also the second once we observe that  $1_{V \otimes V'} = \kappa(1_V \otimes 1_{V'})$ .  $\square$

**2.3. The Hopf algebra case.** Suppose now that  $H = (H, m, \Delta, \varepsilon, S)$  is a Hopf algebra. Since  $H$  is naturally an  $H$ -bimodule,  $\text{ad} : H \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{k}} H$  is a homomorphism of algebras. We also define  $\text{ad}^* : H^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{k}} H$  by  $(\text{ad}^* h)(h') = S(h_{(1)})h'S^2(h_{(2)})$ , which is a homomorphism of algebras. Henceforth, given  $a \in H^{\otimes n}$  we write it in Sweedler-like notation as  $a = a_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_n$  with summation understood.

*Proof of Theorem 1.5.* We need the following equivalent descriptions of  $\mathcal{A}(H)$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $P = P_1 \otimes P_2 \in H \widehat{\otimes} H$ . The following are equivalent:*

- (a)  $P \cdot (S^2 \otimes 1) \circ \Delta(h) = \Delta(h) \cdot P$ ;
- (b)  $(1 \otimes h) \cdot P = (\text{ad}^* h_{(1)})(P_1) \otimes P_2 h_{(2)}$ ;
- (c)  $(\text{ad}^* h \otimes 1)(P) = (1 \otimes \text{ad} h)(P)$ .

*Proof.* By (a) we have  $h_{(1)} \otimes P_1 S^2(h_{(2)}) \otimes P_2 h_{(3)} \otimes h_{(4)} = h_{(1)} \otimes h_{(2)} P_1 \otimes h_{(3)} P_2 \otimes h_{(4)}$  for all  $h \in H$ . Then (b) and (c) follow by applying  $m(S \otimes 1) \otimes 1 \otimes \varepsilon$  and  $m(S \otimes 1) \otimes m(1 \otimes S)$ , respectively, to both sides. Part (b) implies (a) since  $h_{(1)}(\text{ad}^* h_{(2)})(h') = h'S^2(h)$ . Finally, (c) implies (b) since  $(\text{ad}^* h_{(1)})(P_1) \otimes P_2 h_{(2)} = P_1 \otimes \text{ad} h_{(1)}(P_2) h_{(2)} = P_1 \otimes h P_2$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $B$  be an  $H$ -bimodule and set  $B^{\diamond H} := \{b \in B : h \diamond b = \varepsilon(h)b, h \in H\}$ . Then  $B^H \subset B^{\diamond H} \subset B^{S(H)}$  with the equality if  $S$  is invertible.*

*Proof.* Let  $h \in H$ . Then for all  $b \in B^H$  we have  $h \diamond b = S^2(h_{(2)}) \triangleright b \triangleleft S(h_{(1)}) = S^2(h_{(2)})S(h_{(1)}) \triangleright b = S(h_{(1)}S(h_{(2)})) \triangleright b = \varepsilon(h)b$ . On the other hand, for all  $b \in B^{\diamond H}$ ,  $S(h) \triangleright b = \varepsilon(h_{(1)})S(h_{(2)}) \triangleright m = S(h_{(3)})S^2(h_{(2)}) \triangleright m \triangleleft S(h_{(1)}) = S(S(h_{(2)})h_{(3)}) \triangleright m \triangleleft S(h_{(1)}) = m \triangleleft S(h)$ .  $\square$

The following Lemma is well-known and can be proved similarly.

**Lemma 2.7.**  $Z(H) = H^H = H^{\text{ad} H} := \{h' \in H : (\text{ad} h)(h') = \varepsilon(h)h', h \in H\}$ .  $\square$

By Lemma 2.5(c) we have, for all  $h \in H$ ,  $\xi \in H_{\mathcal{C}}^*$

$$\Phi_P(h \diamond \xi) = (S^2(h_{(2)}) \triangleright \xi \triangleleft S(h_{(1)}))(P_1)P_2 = \xi((\text{ad}^* h)P_1)P_2 = \xi(P_1)(\text{ad} h)(P_2) = (\text{ad} h)\Phi_P(\xi).$$

Furthermore, if  $\xi \in (H_{\mathcal{C}}^*)^H$  then  $\Phi_P(h \diamond \xi) = \varepsilon(h)\Phi_P(\xi) = (\text{ad} h)\Phi_P(\xi)$ , whence  $\Phi_P(\xi) \in Z(H)$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.8.* Suppose that  $P$  satisfies  $(\Delta \otimes 1)(P) = t_1 P_1 t_2 \otimes t_3 P'_1 t_4 \otimes P_2 P'_2$ , for some  $T = t_1 \otimes t_2 \otimes t_3 \otimes t_4 \in H^{\widehat{\otimes} 4}$  where  $P = P_1 \otimes P_2 = P'_1 \otimes P'_2$ . Then for any  $\xi, \xi' \in H_{\mathcal{C}}^*$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_P(\xi \cdot \xi') &= (\xi \cdot \xi')(P_1)P_2 = \xi(t_1 P_1 t_2) \xi'(t_3 P'_1 t_4) P_2 P'_2 = (t_2 \triangleright \xi \triangleleft t_1)(P_1)(t_4 \triangleright \xi' \triangleleft t_3)(P'_1)P_2 P'_2 \\ &= \Phi_P(t_2 \triangleright \xi \triangleleft t_1) \cdot \Phi_P(t_4 \triangleright \xi' \triangleleft t_3). \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

Take  $\xi \in H_V^*$ ,  $\xi' \in H_{V'}^*$ . Then  $\xi \cdot \xi' \in H_{V \otimes V'}^*$  by Theorem 1.4(a) and  $\Phi_P(\xi \cdot \xi') \in H_{V,P} \cdot H_{V',P}$  by (2.2). Therefore,  $P \in \mathcal{M}(H)$ . Furthermore, assume that  $t_2 t_1 \otimes t_4 t_3 = 1 \otimes 1$ , and let  $\xi, \xi' \in (H_{\mathcal{C}}^*)^H$ . Then (2.2) yields  $\Phi_P(\xi \cdot \xi') = \Phi_P(t_2 t_1 \triangleright \xi) \cdot \Phi_P(t_4 t_3 \triangleright \xi') = \Phi_P(\xi) \cdot \Phi_P(\xi')$ . This implies that  $P \in \mathcal{M}_0(H)$ .  $\square$

**2.4. Applications.** Let  $\mathcal{R}(H)$  be the set of pairs  $(R^+, R^-)$ ,  $R^{\pm} \in H \widehat{\otimes} H$ , such that  $R_{21}^+ R^- \cdot \Delta(h) = \Delta(h) \cdot R_{21}^+ R^-$  for all  $h \in H$  and  $(\Delta \otimes 1)(R^{\pm}) = R_{13}^{\pm} R_{23}^{\pm}$ ,  $(1 \otimes \Delta)(R^+) = R_{13}^+ R_{12}^+$ . Clearly,  $(R, R) \in \mathcal{R}(H)$  if  $R$  is an  $R$ -matrix for  $H$ .

**Lemma 2.8.** *Suppose that there exists  $\mathbf{g} \in H$  group-like such that  $\mathbf{g} S^2(h) = h \mathbf{g}$  for all  $h \in H$ . Let  $(R^+, R^-) \in \mathcal{R}(H)$ . Then  $P := R_{21}^+ \cdot R^- \cdot (\mathbf{g} \otimes 1) \in \mathcal{A}(H) \cap \mathcal{M}_0(H)$ .*



*Proof.* Write  $R^\pm = r_1^\pm \otimes r_2^\pm = s_1^\pm \otimes s_2^\pm$ . Since  $R_{21}^+ R^- \cdot \Delta(h) = \Delta(h) \cdot R_{21}^+ R^-$  we have

$$P \cdot (S^2 \otimes 1)(\Delta(h)) = r_2^+ r_1^- \mathbf{g} S^2(h_{(1)}) \otimes r_1^+ r_2^- h_{(2)} = r_2^+ r_1^- h_{(1)} \mathbf{g} \otimes r_1^+ r_2^- h_{(2)} = \Delta(h) \cdot P.$$

Thus,  $P \in \mathcal{A}(H)$ . Furthermore,  $(\Delta \otimes 1)(P) = R_{32}^+ R_{31}^+ R_{13}^- R_{23}^- (\mathbf{g} \otimes \mathbf{g} \otimes 1) = P_1 \otimes r_2^+ r_1^- \mathbf{g} \otimes r_1^+ P_2 r_2^-$ . Since  $(\Delta \otimes 1)(R^+) = r_1^+ \otimes s_1^+ \otimes r_1^+ s_1^+$ , by Lemma 2.5(b) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta \otimes 1)(P) &= (\text{ad}^* r_1^+)(P_1) \otimes r_2^+ s_2^+ r_1^- \mathbf{g} \otimes P_2 s_1^+ r_2^- = (\text{ad}^* r_1^+)(P_1) \otimes r_2^+ P_1' \otimes P_2 P_2' \\ &= S(r_1^+) P_1 S^2(s_1^+) \otimes r_2^+ s_2^+ P_1' \otimes P_2 P_2'. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $P \in \mathcal{M}(H)$  with  $T = (S \otimes S^2 \otimes 1 \otimes 1)(R_{13}^+ \cdot R_{23}^+)$ . Finally,  $(m^{op} \otimes m^{op})(T) = S^2(s_2^+) S(r_1^+) \otimes r_2^+ s_2^+ = (S \otimes 1)(R^+ \cdot (S \otimes 1)(R^+)) = 1 \otimes 1$ . Thus,  $P \in \mathcal{M}_0(H)$ .  $\square$

If  $P$  is as in Lemma 2.8 we obtain

$$\Phi_P(\beta_V(v \otimes f)) = r_1^+ \langle r_2^+ r_1^- \mathbf{g} \triangleright v, f \rangle_V r_2^- = r_1^+ \langle r_1^- \triangleright \mathbf{g}(v), f \triangleleft r_2^+ \rangle_V r_2^-, \quad v \in V, f \in V^*. \quad (2.3)$$

Let  $\mathbb{k} = \mathbb{Q}(q)$  and let  $U_q(\mathbf{g})$  be a quantized enveloping algebra corresponding to a symmetrizable Kac-Moody algebra  $\mathbf{g}$  which is a Hopf algebra generated by  $E_i, F_i, i \in I$  and  $K_\mu, \mu \in \Lambda$ , where  $\Lambda$  is a weight lattice of  $\mathbf{g}$ , with  $\Delta(E_i) = 1 \otimes E_i + E_i \otimes K_{\alpha_i}$ ,  $\Delta(F_i) = F_i \otimes 1 + K_{-\alpha_i} \otimes F_i$ ,  $\Delta(K_\mu) = K_\mu \otimes K_\mu$ ,  $\varepsilon(E_i) = \varepsilon(F_i) = 0$  and  $\varepsilon(K_\mu) = 1$ , where  $\alpha_i, i \in I$  are simple roots of  $\mathbf{g}$ . Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be the subalgebra of  $U_q(\mathbf{g})$  generated by the  $K_\mu, \mu \in \Lambda$ . After [2, 8], there exists a unique  $R$ -matrix in a weight completion  $U_q(\mathbf{g}) \widehat{\otimes} U_q(\mathbf{g})$  of the form  $R = R_0 R_1$  where  $R_1 \in U_q^+(\mathbf{g}) \widehat{\otimes} U_q^-(\mathbf{g})$  is essentially  $\Theta^{op}$  in the notation of [8] and satisfies  $(\varepsilon \otimes 1)(R_1) = (1 \otimes \varepsilon)(R_1) = 1 \otimes 1$ , while  $R_0 \in \mathcal{K} \widehat{\otimes} \mathcal{K}$  is determined by the following condition: for any  $\mathcal{K}$ -modules  $V^\pm$  such that  $K_\mu|_{V^\pm} = q^{(\mu, \mu^\pm)} \text{id}_{V^\pm}, \mu, \mu^\pm \in \Lambda$ , we have  $R_0|_{V^- \otimes V^+} = q^{(\mu^-, \mu^+)} \text{id}_{V^- \otimes V^+}$ . Here  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  is the Kac-Killing form on  $\Lambda \times \Lambda$  ([6]). The following is immediate.

**Lemma 2.9.** *Let  $R = r_1 \otimes r_2$  be as above. Let  $v_\lambda \in V(\lambda)$  ( $f_\lambda \in V(\lambda)^*$ ) be a highest (respectively, lowest) weight vector of weight  $\lambda$  (respectively,  $-\lambda$ ),  $\lambda \in \Lambda^+$ . Then  $r_1 \triangleright v_\lambda \otimes r_2 = v_\lambda \otimes K_\lambda$  and  $r_1 \otimes f_\lambda \triangleleft r_2 = K_\lambda \otimes f_\lambda$ .*  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.10.* Since  $V(\lambda)$  is a simple highest weight module,  $D(V(\lambda)) \cong \mathbb{k}$ . Note that for any  $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda^+$ ,  $V(\lambda) \otimes V(\mu)$  is a simple  $U_q(\mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g}) = U_q(\mathbf{g}) \otimes U_q(\mathbf{g})$ -module of highest weight  $(\lambda, \mu)$ . Twisting  $V(\mu)$  with the anti-automorphism of  $U_q(\mathbf{g})$  interchanging  $F_i$  and  $E_i$ , we conclude that  $V(\lambda) \otimes V(\lambda)^*$  is a simple  $U_q(\mathbf{g})$ -bimodule. Taking into account that  $\mathbf{g} = K_{-2\rho}$  we obtain from Lemma 2.9 and (2.3) that  $\Phi_P(\beta_{V(\lambda)}(v_\lambda \otimes f_\lambda)) = K_\lambda \langle \mathbf{g} \triangleright v_\lambda, f_\lambda \rangle K_\lambda \in \mathbb{k}^\times K_{2\lambda}$ . Since  $V(\lambda) \otimes V(\lambda)^*$  is cyclic on  $v_\lambda \otimes f_\lambda$  as  $U_q(\mathbf{g})$ -module with the  $\diamond$  action,  $H_{V(\lambda)}$  is cyclic on  $K_{2\lambda}$  as the  $\text{ad } U_q(\mathbf{g})$ -module by the above. Since  $\beta_{V(\lambda)}$  is injective by Theorem 1.1(c) and  $\Phi_P$  is injective by [2], it follows that  $H_{V(\lambda)} \cong V(\lambda) \otimes V(\lambda)^*$ . This proves (a). Then the sum in (b) is direct by Proposition 1.7(b) and coincides with  $H_{\mathcal{C}_g, P}$  which is always a subalgebra of  $H$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.11.* Since  $D(V(\lambda)) \cong \mathbb{k}$ , Theorem 1.10 implies that  $Z(H_{\mathcal{C}_g, P_g}) = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda^+} \mathbb{k} c_{V(\lambda)}$ , hence the assignment  $|V(\lambda)| \mapsto c_{V(\lambda)}$  is an isomorphism  $\mathbb{k} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} K_0(\mathcal{C}_g) \rightarrow \Phi_{P_g}((H_{\mathcal{C}_g}^*)^H) = Z(H_{\mathcal{C}_g, P_g})$  as in Proposition 1.7(c). By [7],  $K_0(\mathcal{C}_g) = K_0(\mathbf{g} - \text{mod})$  where  $\mathbf{g} - \text{mod}$  is the category of finite dimensional  $\mathbf{g}$ -modules. On the other hand, each non-zero element of  $Z(U_q(\mathbf{g}))$  is  $\text{ad}$ -invariant, hence generates a one-dimensional  $\text{ad } U_q(\mathbf{g})$ -module and thus is contained in  $H_{\mathcal{C}_g, P_g}$  by [5]. Therefore,  $Z(U_q(\mathbf{g})) \subset H_{\mathcal{C}_g, P_g}$  hence  $Z(U_q(\mathbf{g})) = Z(H_{\mathcal{C}_g, P_g})$ .  $\square$

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